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General Assembly

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Fifty-third session
First Committee
Agenda item 71 (c)
General and complete disarmament

South Africa:* draft resolution

Measures to uphold the authority of the 1925 Geneva Protocol

The General Assembly,

Recalling its previous resolution on the subject, in particular resolution 51/45 P of 10 December 1996,

Determined to act with a view to achieving effective progress towards general and complete disarmament under strict and effective international control,

Recalling the long-standing determination of the international community to achieve the effective prohibition of the development, production, stockpiling and use of chemical and biological weapons as well as the continuing support for measures to uphold the authority of the Protocol for the Prohibition of the Use in War of Asphyxiating, Poisonous or Other Gases, and of Bacteriological Methods of Warfare, signed at Geneva on 17 June 1925, as expressed by consensus in many previous resolutions,

Welcoming the end of the cold war, the ensuing easing of international tension and the strengthening of trust between States,

Welcoming the recent initiatives by some States parties to withdraw their reservations to the 1925 Geneva Protocol for the Prohibition of the Use in War of Asphyxiating, Poisonous or Other Gases, and of Bacteriological Methods of Warfare,

1. *Renews* its previous call to all States to observe strictly the principles and objectives of the 1925 Geneva Protocol for the Prohibition of the Use in War of Asphyxiating, Poisonous or Other Gases, and of Bacteriological Methods of Warfare, and reaffirms the vital necessity of upholding its provisions;

* On behalf of the States Members that are members of the Non-Aligned Movement.

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2. *Calls upon* those States that continue to maintain reservations to the 1925 Geneva Protocol to withdraw those reservations;

3. *Requests* the Secretary-General to submit to the General Assembly at its fifty-fifth session a report on the implementation of the present resolution.